



American Community Survey Symposium

March 25, 1998
Conference Center,
U.S. Bureau of the Census,
Suitland, Maryland

**U.S. Department of Commerce
Economics and Statistics Administration
BUREAU OF THE CENSUS**

American Community Survey Symposium March 25, 1998

The American Community Survey (ACS) is designed to provide annual updated estimates of the 2000 census long form items beginning with year 2003 data. The first estimates from the ACS demonstration sites are available on the Internet. They include estimates for all block groups, tracts, and functioning governmental units within each site. Four sites were included in the first full year test of ACS data collection in 1996. The Census Bureau plans to increase the number of sites for 1997-2002 with full national implementation of ACS in 2003.

This symposium is designed to acquaint participants with the status of the ACS program and major research issues, and to discuss interesting results from initial analyses of the data. These analyses include some comparisons with 1990 census data, respondent characteristics by mode of data collection, and some effects of the weighting process. A panel discussion among researchers from each of the sites will include their plans for and results from evaluating data quality by comparing household and item response rates by tract from those of the 1990 census.

Symposium Agenda—ALL SESSIONS WILL BE HELD IN THE CENSUS BUREAU AUDITORIUM

8:30-9:15

Introduction to the American Community Survey

Overview of the ACS and Major Research Issues

Charles Alexander (Demographic Statistical Methods Division)

9:30-10:45

1996 ACS Site Level Response

Monthly Response Rates by Mode: 1996 ACS

Gregg Diffendal (Demographic Statistical Methods Division) and **Susan Love** (Decennial Systems and Contracts Management Office)

Household Size and Characteristics by Response Mode: 1996 ACS vs. 1990 Census

Pam Ferrari (Statistical Research Division)

Item Nonresponse by Mode: 1996 ACS

Anthony Tersine (Demographic Statistical Methods Division) and **Denise Sanders** (Statistical Research Division)

11:00-12:00

Within Site Research

The 1996 ACS: Evaluating the Quality of Census Tract Estimates and Potential Improvements With Administrative Records

David Freedman (University of California, Berkeley), **George Hough** (Portland State University), **Dan Lichter** (Pennsylvania State University), **Joe Salvo** (City of New York), **Carl Schmertmann** (Florida State University), **Cynthia Taeuber** (Demographic Statistical Methods Division)—Roundtable Discussion

12:00-1:15 Lunch

1:15-2:30

Some Interesting Results From 1996 ACS Data

Brevard County—The Missing Kitchen Caper

Bob Bonnette (Housing and Household Economic Statistics Division)

Adjusting 1996 ACS Income Data and Comparing Estimates to the 1990 Census

Kirby Posey and **Ed Welniak** (Housing and Household Economic Statistics Division)

Vacancy Rates in the 1996 ACS

Pete Fronczek (Housing and Household Economic Statistics Division)

2:45-4:30

Statistical Issues and Coverage

The 1996 ACS Weighting Process

Scot Dahl (Demographic Statistical Methods Division)

The ACS and Intercensal Population Estimates—Where are the Crossroads?

Amy Symens (Population Division)

Evaluation of the Census Bureau's Master Address File Using National Health Interview Survey Address Listings

Kathy Ott, **Randy Parmer**, **Barbara Reilly**, **Cliff Loudermilk**, **Yolanda McMillan** and **Tom Coughlin** (Demographic Statistical Methods Division)

Special Place/Group Quarters Inventory Project

Barbara Vandervate (Population Division)

Estimating Generalized Variances for the ACS

Alfredo Navarro, **Anthony Tersine** and **Harland Shoemaker** (Demographic Statistical Methods Division)

For program information contact:

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Symposium registration is free, but space is limited, attendees should register by March 10, 1998. Symposium attendees may also want to attend a two-day conference on Small Area Estimation, which will be held March 26-27 at the Census Bureau.

To register contact:

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For additional information, see the Census Internet site *www.census.gov*